

Meeting Outline: HHS

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Health and Human Services Interim Committee

Room 30 House Building, State Capitol Complex, Salt Lake City, Utah

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

8:30-11:00 a.m.

(Version: 09/17/19)

Approximate
Time Frame

8:30 1. Committee Business

Background

- Draft minutes of the [August 21](#) and [September 9](#), 2019, meeting

Potential Action

- Approve minutes.

8:35 2. Children's Hearing Aid Pilot Program: Sunset Reauthorization

At its August meeting, the committee requested a bill to reauthorize [Utah Code Section 26-10-11, Children's Hearing Aid Pilot Program](#), for five years. The committee will review the draft legislation.

Background

- Draft legislation: [Children's Hearing Aid Program Amendments](#)

Issues

- Should the committee recommend the draft legislation to the Legislature?

Presenters

- Chair Daw
- Public comment

Potential Action

- Recommend the draft legislation.

- 8:40 **3. Medical Cannabis: Contraindicated Uses**
The committee will be briefed on the contraindicated uses of cannabis as a medical treatment.
- Background**

 - Presentation: [Marijuana in Pregnancy, Lactation, and in Children](#) (Dr. Shiozawa)

Issues

 - Does Utah law appropriately reflect current research on the safe use of cannabis products for medical treatments?

Presenters

 - Dr. Brian Shiozawa, MD, Associate Vice President for Health Services, University of Utah Health Sciences
 - Public comment

Potential Action

 - Request additional information.
 - Determine next steps.
- 9:25 **4. Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program**
The committee will consider proposed amendments to [Title 26, Chapter 46, Utah Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program](#). The program was created by the Legislature to provide “professional education scholarships and loan repayment assistance to health care professionals who locate or continue to practice in underserved areas...and loan repayment assistance to geriatric professionals who locate or continue to practice in underserved areas.”

Background

- Draft legislation: [Health Care Workforce Financial Assistance Program Amendments](#)

Issues

- Should the committee recommend the draft legislation to the Legislature?

Presenters

- Representative Raymond P. Ward
- Public comment

Potential Action

- Recommend the draft legislation.

9:50 5. Opioid Misuse: Prescriber Education and Prescriber Compliance with State Law

The committee will review the implementation of policies designed to identify and offer education to prescribers who may not be prescribing opioids or other controlled substances in accordance with best practice guidelines. The committee will also be briefed on protocols and practices for identifying and investigating prescribing practices potentially in violation of state law.

Background

• PRESCRIBER EDUCATION – DOPL’S ROLE

In 2018, the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing was charged with reviewing its controlled substance database to “identify any prescriber who has a pattern of prescribing opioids not in accordance with the recommendations of: (i) the CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain...; (ii) the Utah Clinical Guidelines on Prescribing Opioids for Treatment of Pain...; or (iii) [certain] other publications describing best practices related to prescribing opioids....” The division was also charged with offering education regarding best practices to prescribers so identified. In 2019, the division was charged with offering educational visits to practitioners who may have prescribed a controlled substance to an overdose or poisoning victim.

- [2018 H.B. 127, Controlled Substance Database Act Amendments](#) (Fawson)
- [2019 H.B. 186, Opioid Prescription Regulation Amendments](#) (Ward)

• PRESCRIBER COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW – DOPL’S ROLE

The Controlled Substance Database Act [requires](#) the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing to “maintain the [controlled substance] database...to facilitate use of the database for identification of: (a) prescribing practices and patterns of prescribing and dispensing controlled substances; [and] (b) practitioners prescribing controlled substances in an unprofessional or unlawful manner;....”

The Act also [authorizes](#) access to the database information by division personnel “specifically assigned to conduct investigations related to controlled substance laws under the jurisdiction of the division” and access to “nonidentifying information” by a law enforcement agency officer “who is engaged in a joint investigation with the division...[or]...to whom the division has referred a suspected criminal violation of controlled substance laws.”

- Presentation: [Implementation of 2018 H.B. 127 and 2019 H.B. 186](#) (Source: Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing)

Issues

- How is DOPL fulfilling its charge to identify and offer education to prescribers who may not be prescribing opioids or other controlled substances in accordance with best practice guidelines?
- To what extent are prescribers complying with opioid prescribing guidelines?
- To what extent have prescribing behaviors changed as the result of DOPL's education efforts?
- To what extent have overdose deaths been prevented by DOPL's oversight and education efforts?
- What roles do DOPL and others play in the identification and investigation of practitioners prescribing controlled substances in an unlawful manner?

Presenters

- Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing, Utah Department of Commerce
 - Melanie Wallentine, Controlled Substance Database Program Manager
 - David Furlong, Chief Investigator
- Utah Medical Association
- Public comment

Potential Action

- Determine next steps.

10:30 6. Adjourn

The official agenda for this meeting is available [here](#).